

Honolulu, Hawaii

MAR 25 2015

RE: H.B. No. 444
H.D. 3
S.D. 1

Honorable Donna Mercado Kim
President of the Senate
Twenty-Eighth State Legislature
Regular Session of 2015
State of Hawaii

Madam:

Your Committees on Tourism and International Affairs and
Water and Land, to which was referred H.B. No. 444, H.D. 3,
entitled:

"A BILL FOR AN ACT RELATING TO BEACH PROTECTION,"

beg leave to report as follows:

The purpose and intent of this measure is to:

- (1) Allocate transient accommodations tax revenues to the special land and development fund and beach restoration and conservation special fund to finance restoration and conservation activities;
- (2) Enable the effective development and implementation of plans to slow the degradation of Hawaii's beaches; and
- (3) Encourage the restoration of beaches through the coordination of activities involving the counties and the formation of public-private partnerships.

Your Committees received testimony in support of this measure from the Department of Land and Natural Resources; Hawaii Tourism Authority; Land Use Research Foundation of Hawaii; Ho'omana Pono, LLC.; Outrigger Enterprises Group; The Nature Conservancy; Hawaii Lodging and Tourism Association; Maui Hotel and Lodging Association; and one individual. Your Committees received comments on this measure from the Department of the Attorney



General, Department of Budget and Finance, State-County Functions Working Group, and Tax Foundation of Hawaii.

Your Committees find that Hawaii's beaches are important and unique components of the array of natural resources that make Hawaii a special place for residents and an attractive destination for visitors. Recent studies by researchers at the University of Hawaii indicate that Hawaii's beaches are disappearing at an alarming rate, with seventy percent of beaches undergoing chronic erosion, over thirteen miles of beach completely lost to erosion, and inappropriate shoreline development over the past century. Your Committees further find that the State needs to reinvest in its beaches as one of its important and valuable natural resources and to conserve and restore these important assets by more efficiently distributing limited financial resources.

Your Committees have amended this measure by:

- (1) Inserting language in section 8 to specify that transient accommodation tax revenues deposited into the special land and development fund and expended in accordance with the Hawaii Tourism Authority Strategic Plan may also be used for beach protection, preservation, maintenance, and enhancement;
- (2) Changing the effective date to upon approval; and
- (3) Making technical, nonsubstantive amendments for the purposes of clarity and consistency.

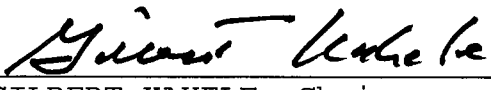
As affirmed by the records of votes of the members of your Committees on Tourism and International Affairs and Water and Land that are attached to this report, your Committees are in accord with the intent and purpose of H.B. No. 444, H.D. 3, as amended herein, and recommend that it pass Second Reading in the form attached hereto as H.B. No. 444, H.D. 3, S.D. 1, and be referred to the Committee on Ways and Means.



Respectfully submitted on
behalf of the members of the
Committees on Tourism and
International Affairs and Water
and Land,



LAURA H. THIELEN, Chair

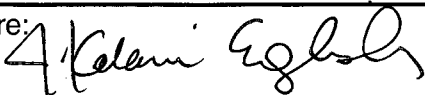


GILBERT KAHELE, Chair



The Senate
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State of Hawai'i


Record of Votes
Committee on Tourism and International Affairs
TSI

Bill / Resolution No.:* HB 444 HD3	Committee Referral: TSI/WTL, WAM	Date: 23 March 2015		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
KAHELE, Gilbert (C)	X			
ENGLISH, J. Kalani (VC)	X			
TANIGUCHI, Brian T.				X
TOKUDA, Jill N.				X
SLOM, Sam	X			
TOTAL	3			2
Recommendation: <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: 				
Distribution: Original Yellow Pink Goldenrod File with Committee Report Clerk's Office Drafting Agency Committee File Copy				

*Only one measure per Record of Votes

The Senate
Twenty-Eighth Legislature
State of Hawai'i

Record of Votes
Committee on Water and Land
WTL

Bill / Resolution No.:* <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">HB444, HD3</div>	Committee Referral: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">TSI/WTL, WAM</div>	Date: <div style="font-size: 1.2em; font-family: cursive;">00-23-15</div>		
<input type="checkbox"/> The Committee is reconsidering its previous decision on this measure. If so, then the previous decision was to: _____				
The Recommendation is: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; align-items: flex-start;"> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Pass, unamended 2312 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Pass, with amendments 2311 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Hold 2310 </div> <div style="text-align: center;"> <input type="checkbox"/> Recommit 2313 </div> </div>				
Members	Aye	Aye (WR)	Nay	Excused
THIELEN, Laura H. (C)	✓			
GALUTERIA, Brickwood (VC)	✓			
IHARA, Jr., Les	✓			
RIVIERE, Gil	✓			
RUDERMAN, Russell E.	✓			
SHIMABUKURO, Maile S.L.				✓
SLOM, Sam	✓			
TOTAL	6			1
Recommendation: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-around; margin-top: 5px;"> <input checked="" type="checkbox"/> Adopted <input type="checkbox"/> Not Adopted </div>				
Chair's or Designee's Signature: <div style="font-size: 1.5em; font-family: cursive; margin-top: 10px;">  </div>				
Distribution: <div style="display: flex; justify-content: space-between; font-size: 0.8em; margin-top: 5px;"> <div>Original File with Committee Report</div> <div>Yellow Clerk's Office</div> <div>Pink Drafting Agency</div> <div>Goldenrod Committee File Copy</div> </div>				

***Only one measure per Record of Votes**